

Osho
The Passion for The Impossible.
Darshan Diary.
Friday 17 September 1976

Geet Govind, a writer from Italy, heard about Osho in the course of his travels in India, while gathering material for a book and in pursuit of a master. He met several sannyasins and was immediately interested, but felt that Osho represented the final stage of the journey and he was but at the beginning. Having spent many months visiting gurus and pundits in many parts of India, he returned to talk, write and have his book published. Having returned to India to write a book on Westerners in India, he then made his way to Poona.

Maneesha Can you tell me what Osho represents for you-what is in him that no one else you had met had?

Geet Govind For me Osho has been the answer-the answer to all my search, and the *total* answer-of the body, the mind and the soul. He represents also the possibility of being in the world without running away from it, without escaping from it.

Maneesha Can you describe your feelings prior to taking sannyas?

Geet Govind I had been in the ashram for ten days before I took sannyas and they were ten days of many contradictory feelings -much fear, much anger, much arguing about it with friends. At the end of ten days, the following morning during a lecture, I just realized that Osho was my spiritual master.

Maneesha So although you were attracted to Osho, there was some dilemma about taking sannyas?

Geet Govind I feel that I had come here with some prejudice, but very positive prejudice. I felt ready to take sannyas, but I had not thought about the ashram, about the organization. I did not think about anything that could make me doubt. So I felt very secure until I saw the contradictory side-the ashram, the organization. I felt I had to pass from even the positive prejudice so that I could be quite empty, and that's why there was some dilemma for me.

Maneesha Can you describe your first impressions on seeing Osho?

Geet Govind I first saw him at a lecture and instantly felt his magnetic pull and I felt that I was in the presence of a great master and he was the answer.

I had the impression of finding myself in front of a river, a symbolic river—and he felt like Siddhartha—you know, in Herman Hesse's *Siddhartha*. I had been through so many experiences, and now here I was before Osho. There were no questions. I just wanted to listen.

When I was in Rome studying religions I was so full of intellectual questions, but at one point when I came here, I felt that all these had dropped, that I didn't feel to ask anything, but just to be here to receive Osho.

Maneesha How do you feel now being a sannyasin?

Geet Govind I feel enriched now, and feel a sensation of something of a rebirth. I feel that sannyas can help all the different aspects I have inside of my being, to bloom, to flower. For me sannyas has been like the total conclusion of all of my experiences.

Maneesha Can you describe how it feels sitting in Osho's presence.

Geet Govind I have been to other masters and at those times I experienced a kind of zig-zag of consciousness—like lightning, a sudden lightning. With Osho it felt as if everything was coming very slowly, filling my being with his energy.

Maneesha Can you talk about your initial feelings about the ashram?

Geet Govind In the beginning it was difficult, but now I have good feelings about the ashram because I understand there are reasons for everything, and I take it is a meditation. I no longer ask why is there this regulation and that, because I understand well that meditation is not just an hour in the morning and an hour in the evening, but that all my life is a meditation.

Maneesha What are your feelings about the atmosphere here and the people?

Geet Govind I have been living in lots of traditional ashrams but when I came here there was something that was absolutely different from traditional ashrams. At the same time there were many rules and regulations and it seemed so inconsistent.

Everything changed anyway when I suddenly felt that Osho was my master. There was not even a new understanding—suddenly everything just seemed right. And I really understood that the life of the ashram is just like ordinary life with all the same kind of problems.



Maneesha Do you have any feelings about the significance of what Osho is doing here?

Geet Govind As a writer I want to help to spread Osho to the world because I feel that many people need his help. I feel that what Osho represents is a movement that is nothing like the old kind of religions -like Christianity, Catholicism, or any kind of religion in which the disciples are always performing ceremonies and rituals...His communication of feelings is the only thing that can really help people, because the people in the world have had enough of Christ and preachers and sermons and ceremonies. People, to me, need the communication of the truth, the experience of the truth.